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**ments for the clothing of patriotic sentiment.**  
Entitled to some latitude of toleration in training day oratory in seasons of profound world peace, there are times and occasions when bluster, especially in official quarters, is inopportune and a gross caricature of the state of public opinion.  
Governor McCREARY failed to take advantage of the opportunity to impress on the 4,000 militiamen and 20,000 others whom he addressed the important truth that in the present juncture of affairs restraint of utterance and action is patriotic good citizenship. Nobody questions where the National Guard of Kentucky would be a caraballed. The Governor's huge blast was in this respect to be regarded as superfluous as well as ill judged.

**Scandalous John Doe Proceedings.**  
Every few days lately the announcement has been made in newspaper articles concerning the Becker case that John Doe proceedings were to be instituted in Becker's behalf. We have received many inquiries as to the meaning of this statement.  
Precisely what course of procedure has been contemplated in this particular case we do not know; but it may be useful to point out what a John Doe proceeding properly is and how it has been abused by magistrates, notwithstanding the severest condemnation of their illegal practices by the Court of Appeals.  
Properly speaking, a John Doe proceeding is a criminal prosecution instituted before a committing magistrate by submitting to him a sworn complaint charging that a definite crime has been committed by a designated person whose name is not known to the complainant, and who is therefore denominated John Doe. It is essential to the validity of such a proceeding, however, that it should point to some particular person as the accused. A committing magistrate under our law does not possess general inquisitorial powers. He has no authority to institute a full investigation as to whether any crime has been committed by anybody. This a Grand Jury may do; but a committing magistrate is restricted to the inquiry whether a specified crime has probably been committed by a specified person. When the complainant is ignorant of the name of the person he would accuse, that person may be called John Doe until his true name is ascertained. The magistrate cannot lawfully conduct a roving inquiry to ascertain what member of the community is the offender. The defendant must be designated at the outset of the proceeding.  
In 1905 a case arose in this city which is a good example of the sort of John Doe proceeding that the law does not approve. A Justice of the Court of Special Sessions issued a subpoena to nineteen witnesses directing them to attend before him at a specified time and place and bring with them all the books, records and documents in their possession or under their control, belonging to a certain firm of theatrical managers, covering a period of nine years. No proof had been laid before him tending to show that an offense had been committed or who had committed it. The Court of Appeals held that the subpoena was void on its face.  
"It did not state what the crime was, nor who the accused was, but indicated an intention to rove around and find out. The record by the magistrate of a mere supposition, followed by a declaration of his purpose to investigate and see whether the supposition was correct, indicated a voyage of discovery that the law does not tolerate."

**Nature and Man.**  
Mr. NEWMAN LEB, president of the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railroad, has been travelling on it through the States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota. He finds a "perfect" rye crop already garnered in South Dakota; and now being harvested in South Dakota; the heaviest cut crop on record; wheat "perfect" everywhere; cotton doing well. He sees or foresees "the heaviest yield and greatest grain movement in our history."  
So it is generally all over these United States. The farmer and the soil have done their task well. The rains have not overdone them. Mighty crops, the foundation of all prosperity, are assured.  
Nature has worked nobly for the good of the American people. What ever there is of sinister or fatuous, conscious or unconscious opposition to a great renaissance of business and revival of good times and fat years comes from the Government. Witness the La Follette-Furness law to sweep the American merchant marine from the seas and the lakes. Witness the Department of Justice in pious pride of opinion resolved to keep up the prosecution of the United States Steel Corporation.  
"Every prospect pleases And only man is vile."

Fortunately, the disposition to regard the harriving of business and the baiting of business as essential to political prosperity has waned notably. Let us hope, then, that the La Follette-Furness act for the abolition of American merchant vessels, signed in the last moments of the Sixty-third Congress, will be repealed in the first moments of the Sixty-fourth. The Steel prosecution, we take it, is largely an automatic continuation of an expiring policy or illusion, to which the Supreme Court may be trusted to give the final blow.  
The American people have had enough and more than enough of hard times made harder by Federal folly. The stringencies born of the war they have patiently endured. They will not endure patiently the damage wrought by meddlesome, ambitious politicians currying favor with special classes in the hope of votes or nominations.

**A Superfluous Bugle Blast.**  
"If the flag of the United States is insulted on land or sea," said Governor McCREARY of Kentucky in an address at a review of the National Guard of the Blue Grass State, "I am ready for war, and in the event of war I shall exercise my prerogative as commander in chief and go to the front with you."  
Sound doctrine very generally shared, but if by readiness to go to war the Governor means preparedness for war he probably has an advantage over the country in general. If we are to believe the military authorities. As to the Governor's assertion of prerogative to lead Kentucky's embattled sons to the front as commander in chief, there is little likelihood of its being disputed. The prerogative might even be extended, without fear of cavil, to a declaration of intent rigidly to exclude buncombe and swag as far as the front is concerned.

**Insanity Experts.**  
That the deplorable miscarriage of justice in a recent judicial proceeding was partly but not exclusively due to the contradictory testimony of the insanity experts was distressingly evident in every stage of the trial before and after the defendant's acquittal on the ground of insanity up to his liberation on account of sanity. The latter was doubtless the result chiefly of the contempt expressed in no uncertain language in the trial Justice's charge. The pocket nerve manifested his powerful influence throughout the whole proceedings, culminating in the large ball bond directed by the Judge after pronouncing the defendant sane.  
What is the object of this ball bond? There is no escape from the conclusion that it is intended to establish a kind of probation during which the sanity of the subject might be tested. What other reason can there be for thus practically abolishing the habeas corpus act?

The action of Judge HENRICK is otherwise inexplicable. If the accused was temporarily insane by reason of congenital irresponsibility, or by reason of vicious intoxication as his wife thinks, then who knows when this temporary irresponsibility may possibly recur?  
This insanity expert system requires a thorough airing. To the untutored mind it would appear that a doctor who lives or has lived in an asylum may not be as competent to diagnose incipient or obscure cases as the family physician who sees cases only in their earliest manifestations.

The asylum doctor is more competent correctly to label pronounced cases and to treat them.  
It may be asserted that it is the custom of family physicians to call in hospital doctors for other diseases. Why not in insanity? Every hospital physician has seen innumerable diagnosed cases of typhoid fever, pneumonia and other diseases; he has usually been a practitioner, a clinic doctor or an assistant, but the doctor who devotes himself to insanity goes at once into an asylum where he rarely sees doubtful cases.  
Since it has become a custom among family physicians to call in a neurologist in all cases in which nervous symptoms manifest themselves, these specialists really see more incipient cases of insanity than the asylum trained doctors, and would therefore become more expert in its early diagnosis, while they would be excellent in treatment, after the diagnosis is established, by the asylum doctor.  
We submit this view to our medical readers. Physicians owe it to themselves and to the community to clear up this distressing insanity expert situation without being awed, as they now are, by the psychiatric expert whose observation is chiefly among established cases.

Since, as Judge CLEARWATER has pointed out in *THE SUN*, the trial Judge is authorized by law to select three reputable physicians as experts, it becomes the duty of medical societies to decide upon the men whom they regard as reputable and competent, and to give access to a list of these experts to the authorized court officers. If the Judge may be inclined to favoritism, which we greatly doubt, he would subject himself to criticism if the appointees were not among the doctors selected and indorsed by an authoritative body.

**The Underground Cany.**  
For years that transcend memory *THE SUN* has defended against the superstitions of science, falsely so called, the unerring prophetic instinct of the groundhog, sole warlock and matchless divinator of the weather. Not the departed Beartown BRENN, nor Uncle Hon JOHNSON of Middle Haddam, Conn., had or has an eye so single, a nose so subtle to the higher metaphysics. The Groundhog Club of Painesville, Pa., and other societies of connoisseurs in woodchuckery have recognized *THE SUN*'s steady service to this underground savant by making it a member of their consultations.  
But faithful are the wounds of a friend. *THE SUN* has just had the painful duty of reporting from Delaware county, Ind., a conduct and conspiracy of its ancient friends which is as interesting as infamous. They are looting the corn. They have risen against the farmers, and the farmers have risen against them. With grief and indignation we hear of a single farm on which there are 500 groundhog holes, dens, dives or trenches, wherefrom these subterranean issue to spoil the land.  
What skills it that they keep "sentinels" posted which by their whistling warn their comrades of the hunter's approach? This detail of natural history, precious to a W. J. Long or an Ernest Thompson Seton, brings into only a deeper shame the lawless predatory character of these associated prophets. Whistle, do they? So, no doubt, the Spaniards whistled at the sack of Antwerp or the Reiters at the burning of a nunnery. And yet the faunal naturalist may be glad to know that the groundhog's whistle is "not greatly unlike the singing of a canary, only much louder and even sweeter in tone."

Poet and prophet like ORPHICUS, thief like VILLOS, however much the groundhog's corn stealing merits blame, we must wonder at the complexity of his character. One of the most remarkable geniuses our country has produced, sir.

**Suffrage in the Prize Ring.**  
Those women who have seriously at heart the success of the campaign for equal privileges at the polls are sincerely to be commiserated in view of the injury done to their cause by indelicate adherents whose misguided conduct brings the propaganda into contempt and ridicule. As to the propriety and expedience of allowing women to vote the minds of most men are now open; the frequent repetition of such incidents as the intemperate appeal to the patrons of the prize ring will close them firmly.  
Neither dignity nor a competent understanding of the importance of the right to vote is displayed in such theatrical and ineffective tactics. They cast suspicion on the sincerity of those who practise them, and inspire doubt whether political power or the notoriety that may be won by advocating it is the real purpose behind their adoption. As in England the methods of Pankhurstism alienated definitely men whose sympathies might have been enlisted for the cause, so here the heedless and light-headed imitators of British viragoes do more damage to a cause not yet won than can be done by its most determined opponents.

**Relief for the Express Companies.**  
The decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission reversing its order of two years ago reducing express company rates and permitting changes in charges which will enable the companies to make a measurable recovery of earnings shows that a new commission is regulating transportation in the United States to-day, a commission vastly altered from that which handed down the ruling condescending to the Eastern railroads only the shadow of relief from excessively low freight rates while denying the substance. The commission which bare-

ly five months later upset that ruling and gave the railroads a chance to live is the one which has now acted with fair-mindedness toward the express companies.  
The order reducing express company rates went into effect early last year with a proviso that it should have a twelve months trial of its effect on revenues. It happened also that during this period of reduced rates the companies were subjected practically for the first time to the new competition of the parcel post. Last March the express companies petitioned for relief, supporting their application with an exhibition of earnings under the new tariff. It was calculated at the time that the changes they sought permission to make in their charges would yield an increase of 3 1/2 per cent. in gross earnings. The commission says that it "clearly appears" that the express companies are operating at a loss under the rates prescribed two years ago. It declares that the companies are entitled to reasonable relief and sanctions adjustments of the tariff which seem to work out to a probable increase of about 3 1/2 per cent. on gross revenues. The commission asserts that relief should be prompt, and the new tariffs are to be effective on September 1.

This is a sign of sounder Government policy toward business. In the times into which we are to go as a result of the war, business in this country must be unfettered and really free of political restrictions.  
We can conceive of no adequate explanation or excuse for the conduct of the New Jersey authorities within whose jurisdiction the Bayonet Bridge has occurred for remitting to private persons the maintenance of order and the preservation of the peace. With the Roosevelt disorders and their melancholy outcome fresh in mind, the Sheriff and the police should have recognized the danger at the beginning and taken the proper and only defensible steps to quell any disturbance which might be attempted. These steps, as every man knows who is informed as to the handling of crowds, road blockades and the like, are the immediate assertion of authority supported by sworn peace officers in number sufficient to meet the needs of the situation, and the prompt suppression of private guards in public places, and all similar incentives to disorder. The New Jersey officials who failed or refused to do their duty have a heavy responsibility for the disorders of this week.

Prisoners flit inside Sing Sing. Politics, brook and knives disturb reign of Mullahs in Federal penitentiary. That Sing Sing degree, which is to be so precious in due course of time and reform, is not to be won without a vigorous struggle.  
Lays evil on woman's dress.—Headline of course, the devil comes and the blame stays with woman. We hate to be rude of speech, but usually when we find a man chattering about woman's dress, we can't apply to him a more enduring title than "idiot."

Tiddewink, a hydroplane designed and built by Mr. E. L. Loring, of New York, made seventy miles an hour on a preliminary trial. Shoes of swiftness that make our express, "swifter than the winds and the wings of the lightning," look like cold molasses, and that could not be to be too slow, made seventy miles an hour on a preliminary trial. Shoes of swiftness that make our express, "swifter than the winds and the wings of the lightning," look like cold molasses, and that could not be to be too slow, made seventy miles an hour on a preliminary trial.

Charles Brickley, the famous Harvard athlete, has signed a contract to coach the Johns Hopkins football team next fall.—Baltimore dispatch.  
In view of the considerable number of young gentlemen who are enrolled at American colleges and universities who make coaching their profession, should not new sheepskins, Bachelor of Football, Bachelor of Baseball, Bachelor of Rowing, Bachelor of Track Athletics, and so on, be issued? Moreover, shouldn't these highly modern and monumentally influential professions be rewarded with appropriate honorary doctorates on commencement day?

As to the etymology and origin of "ditty," there have been much conjectured, but the most plausible is that it came from the French word "dieu," which means "god." Whencever sprung and though not devoid of a rude beauty, surely "ditty" is far less expressive than the Cuban term for the chartered libertine of the streets, "spider," a crawler everywhere.

The late JOHN BROWN HENSHOFF, totally blind from his fifteenth year, compared fortune out of some of the greatest of human disasters. Touch, developed to an almost marvellous delicacy, served him as eyes. He saw the line of a boat with a clear, sharp, concentrated mental vision. The swift famous boats constructed by him and designed by his brother Nat have had due mention in the obituary notices. Our purpose is to recall and commend this lesson of brave and successful coping, of high intelligence overcoming for nearly sixty years a hopeless infirmity metamorphosed by will and mind into strength.

**Look 35,000 Pictures of Liberty Bell.**  
From the Denver Post.  
At least one of the patriots who saw the Liberty Bell carried cameras. And every camera carrier wished to get a picture of the Liberty Bell. The good natured trait of the man from Philadelphia was that he took snapshots of it with every camera which was handed up to him.  
James Fick, one of the officers, has been an expert with the camera since he left Philadelphia. He has taken 35,000 pictures of the Liberty Bell.

**June, 1915.**  
From the Spectator.  
O nature, we arraign thee now Because a smile is on thy face, And birds sing joy on every bough; And nothing heed the grief of man, The war, the wounds, the agony, The workers' hands that are so bare, The end of hope are hope begun.  
The heart is greater than our grief, Thy lesson wider than our war, The love that dwells in the soul is greater than the world's despair.  
I rest me in thine arms secure, Come what death may to me or mine, Thy peace is sweeter than the dawn, All that I live for shall endure.  
F. W. BORDEN, LONDON.

**PARIS IN WAR TIME.**  
Intimate Account of the Spirit and Temper of France To-day.  
(The following letter was received in New York yesterday from one of the most distinguished American ladies now residing in Paris.)  
PARIS, July 9.  
In spite of the defeats of the Russian army and the failure of the pressure on Germany from that side, in spite of the continual fighting without any material advance of the Allies in the north of France, in spite of the unpromising outlook at the Dardanelles, which to the unskilled mind seemed to indicate that the French people are keeping up a wonderful morale and spirit and show little of the depression that one would expect to find under the long strain of war and the continuous successes of their barbaric but well provided and methodical enemies.  
The temper of the population of Paris is splendid, and the settled determination of Government and people to persist and fight until they achieve victory is as strong to-day as it was in the early days of the war after the Marne, when everything looked easy for the Allies. The unheard of methods of German warfare, the asphyxiating gases and other crimes against international law, which have been the lot of the French soldier and nation, have been met with the firm determination to meet the enemy on his own ground and to fight him with his own weapons improved and made more deadly by the inventive genius of the French. The French scientists the counter gases and antidote for the deadly German chlorine gas have been readily found, which is a great relief to the French soldier and nation. The French have improved the deadly toxic shell, which spreads death wherever it explodes. The French have improved the asphyxiating shells stay in the trenches when the shells have exploded, and although in several cases it has cleared out the trenches the Germans suffered great loss from their own gas and could not hold the trenches. The French have improved the deadly toxic shell, which spreads death wherever it explodes. The French have improved the asphyxiating shells stay in the trenches when the shells have exploded, and although in several cases it has cleared out the trenches the Germans suffered great loss from their own gas and could not hold the trenches.

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**GERMANY'S ATTITUDE.**  
A Prediction as to a New Phase of the Propaganda.  
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir, Your article yesterday but fully answered the letter signed "Lawyer" in *THE SUN* of July 13. Germany's notes and the propaganda press entirely ignore one aspect which cannot be emphasized too often for the benefit of sympathizers with Germany who are at the same time loyal to this country.  
Germany's prior notes officially recognized that, according to international law, she has no right to sink a merchant vessel, whether enemy or neutral, without visit, search and removal of passengers and crew to safety. She refuses to do this, and she retaliates against her enemy on account of the "starvation" blockade effectively maintained by the British.  
The right to retaliate against an enemy is recognized by international law. The point that has not been emphasized sufficiently is this: The principle of retaliation can be invoked against an enemy, but not against a neutral nation. The act of retaliation, an act of war, properly available against an enemy, is not available against a neutral nation. The act of retaliation, an act of war, properly available against an enemy, is not available against a neutral nation.

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**MR. ROOT'S SUPPORTERS.**  
Would His Stalwart Conduct in 1912 Injure His Candidacy?  
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: I read with interest *THE SUN*'s policy of the country on the question of the Republican Presidential nominee for 1916, and especially the editorial which approaches amazement that the Hon. Elihu Root appears to be first choice. Without on my part, confessing any anticipation of Mr. Root, I desire to inquire whether *THE SUN*'s referendum of this question has been placed before the whole body of the Republican party as constituted prior to the last annual convention of 1912, and whether in reaching a basis for conclusion due deference was given to the 4,000,000 who supported Roosevelt that year, and who in 1912 the decision in favor of Mr. Root bears representative indorsement from this great body of voters.

It is natural to presume, in the face of events that occurred in 1912, that Mr. Root would be far from popular with a very large part of the Roosevelt following. And while making a very large allowance for the pronounced reactionary movement against the Democratic Administration and against radicalism in all parties, I would not be foolish to undertake to foist Mr. Root or any other unwelcome man upon these 4,000,000, granting that they are not already in frame of mind to accept his cordial recommendation.

Does it stand to reason that a man who literally stood on the bridge between the Roosevelt men and the rest of the party, and who in 1912 was the best man upon whom to reunite the whole party strength in 1916? Would not support under such a condition on the part of the great body of Roosevelt followers than is to be expected of a perfectly human constituency?

I merely raise the point as one of inquiry, and not as a complaint. But I find in this province, far removed from New York, it is true, but in a reading, thinking and fairly reasonable man, a thoroughgoing like Herrick, Cummings or Burton or any one of half a dozen others that might be mentioned would seem to offer more than a fair basis for the success that cannot be had without harmony than any forward partisan of either side to the interested constituency.

To win in 1916 there must be a leader and a Republican party, and the leader must be able to lead the whole of that party. Who is the leader? J. F. JACKSON.  
HUNTINGTON, N. Y., July 22.

**THE GRAPEVINE.**  
Reminiscences of the Old New York Hostelry.  
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: One of the most treasured possessions of the old Grapevine at Eleventh street and Sixth avenue was an editorial article from *THE SUN* of a commemorative of its hospitality and charm, which, like its old engravings, this had become a part of the old Grapevine. It was a spirit of appreciation that the passage of years made all the more poignant with the gradual extinction of hosteries of this character.  
I have a number of interesting years before the passing of the Golden Eagle, which, like the old Grapevine, was an institution in its time which it is deplorable that it should have passed away. The old Grapevine was literally a place of "rest and entertainment." It had, carefully hidden from the gaze of the vulgar, a "back room" where the old Portuguese cemetery in the rear of its premises.

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**LEGISLATORS START INQUIRY**

**Senator Brown Denies Political Purpose in Finance Investigation Here.**  
**THREE TO HIRE A LAWYER**

The legislative committee which is to look into New York city's finances met yesterday for the first time at the Hotel Lorraine and chose Senator Ron R. Brown of Watertown as chairman. Assemblyman William J. Maier of Seneca was made vice-chairman and Senator Brown, Senator George Conover of Staten Island and Assemblyman Frederick R. Stoddard, Jr., were named as members to hire a lawyer for the investigation which is to be made.

Senator Brown said that the investigation will not really get to work until the probability, for a week yet. It is expected that anything will be done before counsel has been selected.  
The chairman was at some pains yesterday to say that there will be no partisan or personal bias in the investigation. When told that some persons had predicted that the investigation would be conducted with a view to the defeat of Senator Brown, he said: "I should think that that opinion must be founded on one of two conceptions. One is that the investigation is to attack the city administration, which is not true at all, or it is believed that the investigation will be conducted with a view to the defeat of Senator Brown, which is not true at all."

Statement as to Purposes.  
The Senator said he couldn't name the men being considered as counsel for the committee. He did not know how long the investigation would last. Senator Brown gave out a statement which was approved by the other members of the committee. He said it is as follows, in part: "The investigation will be conducted with a view to the defeat of Senator Brown, which is not true at all, or it is believed that the investigation will be conducted with a view to the defeat of Senator Brown, which is not true at all."

How to Avert Calamity.  
"Undoubtedly the alarm over the direct tax proposed by the Legislature of 1915, which will in the New York amount to the sum of approximately \$12,000,000, is a serious one. It is a tax which will be levied on the real estate market, and it will amount to a calamity if it is not averted. It is a tax which will be levied on the real estate market, and it will amount to a calamity if it is not averted. It is a tax which will be levied on the real estate market, and it will amount to a calamity if it is not averted."

Obey Him Now!  
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Permit me to offer you sincere and hearty congratulations on your splendid editorial article entitled "Obey Him Now." I wish it could be blazoned from one end of the earth to the other and burned into the mind of every person in the land.  
There is, I believe, too much loose talk over what we should and should not do by a lot of people who have just enough intelligence and influence to give to the dangerous and irresponsible "peace" party a very bad name and all the time, and perhaps they will be induced to crawl into the hole and pull the hole in after them.

Consolation.  
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: The shade theory that I have set out grows slowly, but I console myself with the thought that Mr. Root will not enjoy them. It will help to compensate them for having to pay off bonds.  
DANBURY, Conn., July 22. G. J.